

June 4, 2002

Public Notice for 401 Certification

Salmon Creek Streambank Stabilization and Riparian Restoration Project Humboldt County

On May 20, 2002, the application from Jack Monschke Watershed Management requesting Federal Clean Water Act, Section 401, Water Quality Certification for Salmon Creek Streambank Stabilization and Riparian Restoration Project was received by the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board). The application covers disturbances to waters of the United States associated with the South Fork Eel River Hydrologic Area Unit No. 111.30.

The proposed project is located on Salmon Creek, a tributary to the South Fork Eel River in southern Humboldt County, CA. The project will improve salmon spawning and rearing habitat by reducing sediment input along approximately 900 linear feet of streambank at six sites located in the Salmon Creek Watershed in Class I and Class II streams.

The proposed project includes the modification of a woody debris jam to direct flow away from an existing streambank failure. The streambank and floodplain restoration will use bioengineered structures, such as willow fences and willow baffles, large woody debris (LWD), and rock. Coast redwood, alder, and willow will be planted in the riparian areas.

Total area of permanent impact to these waters and wetlands include the revegetation of approximately 5 acres of riparian habitat. Additionally, 2500 linear feet of streambank will be permanently improved.

The California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), as the lead California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) agency, will issue a Negative Declaration under CEQA, pending state clearinghouse comments.

The nearest receiving water is Salmon Creek, located in the South Fork Eel River Hydrologic Unit No. 111.30.

The project is scheduled to begin during late summer 2002 and end in 2003. All in-stream work will be completed in late summer 2002, no later than October 15, 2002. Staff is proposing to regulate this project under a conditional water quality certification pursuant to the California Code of Regulations, Title 23, Chapter 28, Sections 3830 to 3869. Comments on this project should be submitted to **Kirsten James** at jamek@rbl.swrcb.ca.gov, within 21 days of the posting of this notice.